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JOB SERVICE

Washington State
Employment Security Department
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In cooperation with
the Employment and
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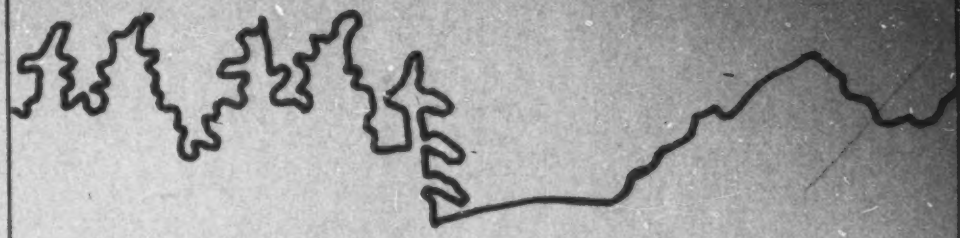
U.S. Department of Labor



Washington Labor Market

Volume 10, Number 4 April 1986

HIGHLIGHTS

Employment Springs Ahead

Improved weather with the arrival of spring resulted in sizable employment gains in industries dependent on favorable weather conditions, such as agriculture and construction. Total employment in Washington State rose 21,400 between February and March as a result. Agriculture alone added several thousand workers with the beginning of a new crop year. Major activities included general field preparation, fruit tree and grape pruning, the daffodil harvest, hop yard twining and raspberry pruning and tying. Farm employment will

	Mar. 1986* (Prel.)	Feb. 1986* (Rev.)	Mar. 1985
Civilian Labor Force	2,093,100	2,076,400	2,063,700
Total Employment	1,919,900	1,898,500	1,879,900
Total Unemployment	173,200	177,900	183,800
State Unemployment Rate	8.3	8.6	8.9
National Civilian Unemployment Rate	7.5	7.8	7.5

*These data represent alternative estimates of labor force conditions developed by the State Employment Security Department. They are more comparable with data released in previous years than are the official Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates developed for federal program purposes. (Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.)

expand even more in April with the beginning of the asparagus harvest.

Nonagricultural employment rose 13,600 over the month with the largest gains in the nonmanufacturing industries. Construction employment, which was held down in February by snow and cold weather, posted a sizable seasonal gain when the weather improved in March. Employment in the services group advanced as seasonal expansions began at golf courses, landscaping firms, and nurseries. Firms providing income tax preparation services also added staff. Retail trade payrolls moved up, with Easter boosting apparel sales and other seasonal expansions at lawn and garden supply stores, building material outlets, gasoline stations, food stores and restaurants. In the state's manufacturing industries, aerospace continued its expansion, and food product firms reported seasonal gains.

Employment Up Sharply Over The Year

The year-to-year comparison continues to show strong growth in the state economy. Nonagricultural employment was up 58,600 over the year. Retail trade (up 15,300) and services (up 17,000) led the expansion with consumers still in a spending mood. Government civilian payrolls rose 8,200 over the year. Federal employment added 700 despite a drop of 1,300 in civilian defense jobs. Of the 7,500 new state and local public jobs, 6,500 were on the local level with school districts hiring 3,000 of the new employees.

Manufacturing employment was credited with a gain of 5,200 jobs over the year. Aerospace alone added 8,300 employees from March 1985, while nonelectrical machinery employment rose 1,100 on the strength of a special contract. A gain of 500 in chemicals occurred almost entirely in the Hanford nuclear industry. These gains, however, were trimmed by losses in lumber (down 800), primary metals (down 600), other transportation equipment (mainly shipbuilding, down 1,900), and pulp-paper (down 500).

Unemployment Down

Reflecting seasonal job growth, unemployment in Washington State fell from 177,900 and 8.6 percent of the labor force in February to 173,200 and 8.3 percent in March. Compared with March 1985, unemployment dropped 10,600. The jobless rate one year ago was 8.9 percent, or six-tenths of a point above the rate for this past March. On a seasonally adjusted basis, however, the unemployment rate edged up to 7.8 percent in March from 7.6 percent in February, but it remained below December's rate of 8.0 percent. Small increases in the seasonally adjusted rate over the month or over two or three months are not necessarily significant,

especially in the winter and early spring when seasonal adjustment factors are large. Nonetheless, the decline in unemployment from its peak in the last recession has shown signs of leveling off in recent months (see chart on page 4).

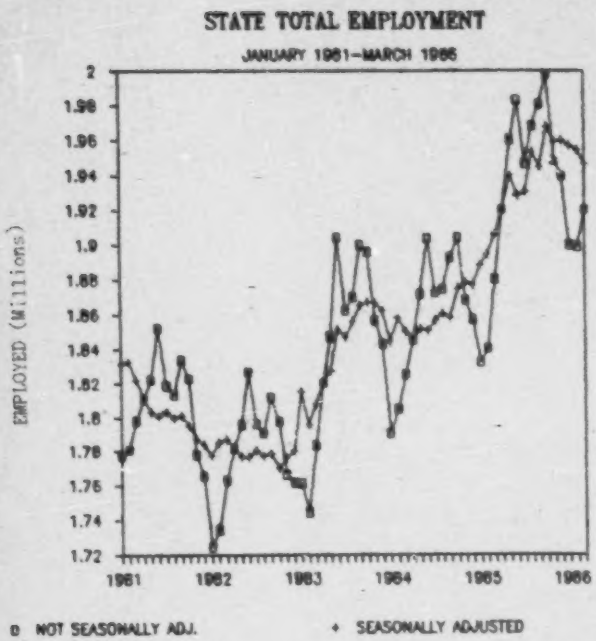
March Drop In Unemployment Mainly In Eastern Washington

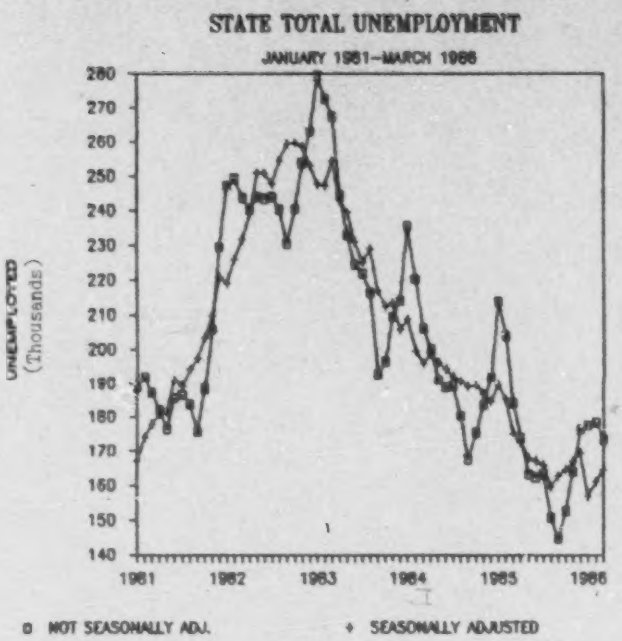
The drop in unemployment of 4,700 in March was considerably less than the 21,400 gain in employment because of a seasonal pick up in labor force entrants, especially agricultural workers in Eastern Washington. Nonetheless most of the decline in unemployment occurred east of the Cascades because of expanding opportunities in agriculture. The jobless rate in Eastern Washington fell from 12.2 percent in February to 11.4 percent in March, while the rate in the western part of the state edged down from 7.5 to 7.4 percent.

Typical of Eastern Washington areas, the unemployment rate in Yakima County fell from 17.3 to 15.8 percent over the month and the rate in Walla Walla County dropped from 12.6 to 11.8 percent. In Western Washington changes were mixed. The rate in the Seattle Metropolitan Area slipped from 6.4 to 6.3 percent over the month, but the rate in the Tacoma area edged up one-tenth point to 7.8 percent. Vancouver Metropolitan Area's rate dropped from 8.8 to 8.4 percent, but rates in Grays Harbor (12.7 to 13.6) and Pacific counties (12.3 to 14.3) rose because of additional layoffs in their lumber industries.

Seattle Accounts For Most of Year-To-Year Improvement

In contrast to the month-to-month change, the over-the-year decline in unemployment occurred mainly in Western Washington. The jobless rate on the west side fell from 8.1 to 7.4 percent over the year, while the rate in Eastern Washington dipped from 11.7 to 11.4 percent. Most of the improvement in unemployment occurred in the Seattle Metropolitan Area where the rate dropped from 7.1 to 6.3 percent over the year. Seattle accounted for nearly 60 percent of the statewide decline in unemployment over the year. However, this is not surprising because of the strength of its aerospace industry. Nearly 70 percent of the statewide employment growth over the year was also in the Seattle area.





MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Manufacturing employment rose 1,000 between February and March with aerospace continuing to lead the expansion with a gain of 800. Developments at The Boeing Company favor further growth. In the first quarter of 1986, the company received orders for 75 jet aircraft worth $5 billion versus orders for 23 aircraft valued at $1 billion in the corresponding period in 1985. The outlook for Boeing's commercial business is bright but prospects for its defense work are clouded by the possibility of a reduction in defense spending.

Boeing's Orders Up In First Quarter

Boeing, however, continues to compete for a $40 billion Air Force contract to build a new jet fighter. Seven firms are competing for the contract. The Defense Department will choose three or four finalists this summer and make its final selection by 1989. Recently, the Reagan administration announced that the contract might be expanded to build Navy as well as Air Force fighters which could double the value of the contract.

New Orders Continue to Roll In

Commercial orders continued to grow in April. Trans Pacific Enterprises of Australia ordered 12 advanced technology Boeing 737-300 twin jets valued at around $300 million, and Condor Flugdienst of Germany ordered

five new-generation Boeing 737-300s at a price of about $125 million.

New Plant Likely For Vancouver

Developments in the state's electronics industry have also been favorable lately with the announcement of a new firm locating in Vancouver and the recall of laid off workers by another firm. Matsushita Electric Industrial Company is expected to select Vancouver as its location to build video tape recorders in the United States. The firm is Japan's largest consumer electronics manufacturer. The Vancouver facility would reportedly employ about 200 workers.

Workers Recalled

Improvement in the U.S. semiconductor market has resulted in the recall of workers laid off last year by SEH America Inc. in Vancouver. The firm was forced to lay off 155 workers last year because of a slowdown in orders. Of those terminated, 100 have already been recalled and the company expects its work force to be back to its pre-layoff total by mid-year. The firm believes that the semiconductor industry will grow about ten percent in 1986 and show even stronger growth in 1987.

Food Processors Expand

Food products payrolls rose 300 in March as the canning of asparagus from California began. Further expansion will occur in April when the processing of local asparagus begins. More significant, however, was an agreement between Hygrade Food Products and its workers. In exchange for wage concessions, Hygrade will keep its Tacoma plant open and spend $2 million to modernize the facility. Before the firm announced plans to close the plant last year, it employed nearly 400 workers. The renovated plant will employ 225. Hourly wages will be cut from $10.69 to $9.50.

Hygrade Plant To Remain Open

Lumber Orders And Prices Up, Employment Stable

Lumber orders, production and prices have advanced in the first quarter of 1986, but employment has remained relatively stable since January, and in March was still down slightly over the year. According to the Western Wood Products Association's year-to-date figures through the week ending March 29, 1986, new orders for lumber in western Washington and Oregon were up 13 percent and production advanced seven percent from the corresponding period in 1985. The spot price of spruce-pine-fir 2x4s in the week ending April 25 was quoted by the trade publication "Random Lengths" at $188 per thousand board feet, down from $201 one week earlier but up from $150 one year ago. The price of 1/2 inch sheathing plywood was quoted at $211 per thousand square feet, down from $222 in the previous week but up from $190 one year earlier.

Weyerhaeuser Asks For Wage Cuts

The Weyerhaeuser Company is asking its workers to accept a $4 per hour cut in their wages and benefits,

which now average about $20 per hour. The company said it needs wage concessions if its Northwest operations are to survive. A company spokesman stated that Weyerhaeuser's independent competitors in the Northwest pay average wages and benefits of $12 to $14 per hour and that labor costs are even lower in the south and in Canada. Labor contracts with Weyerhaeuser's loggers and millworkers expire May 31. Negotiations on the new contract are underway.

NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Construction Payrolls Up

Construction employment rose 3,500 in March and was 3,000 above its year-earlier level. Declining mortgage rates have improved the outlook for the building trades this year. Nationally, housing starts were running at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,949,000 units in March, down from 1,997,000 units in February but up from 1,849,000 units in March 1985. With mortgage rates at their lowest level in eight years, housing sales soared in March. Nationally, new home sales reached their highest level in the 23 years the Department of Commerce has estimated such data. Building permits for housing units, an indicator of future activity, also advanced in March despite the slight drop in starts.

Building Outlook Bright

The McGraw-Hill Information Systems Company boosted its projection for total 1986 construction to 3.6 percent above 1985 levels because of the bright outlook for homebuilding. The firm, however, expects some decline in public works projects because of federal deficit-reduction measures. It is also forecasting a fall off in office building projects and in multi-family housing construction, where vacancy rates are rising.

The bright outlook for single-family housing starts, however, was at least temporarily dimmed in late April; the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) stopped taking applications for loans when it reached its credit ceiling. Congress, however, has agreed to extend the FHA credit limit, but it is uncertain when the action will be enacted because of President Reagan's Asian visit.

Easter Boosts Retail Trade

Easter sales and other seasonal factors helped boost employment in retail trade 2,700 between February and March. The outlook for further gains is good, especially for furniture and appliances because of the growth in new housing. Nationally, retail sales fell 0.8 percent in March but only because of a drop in auto sales and declining gasoline revenue. The drop in gasoline sales was not due to less gasoline being used but to sharply lower prices. Eventually the lower gasoline expenditures will be reflected in sales

growth in other sectors as consumers find they have more discretionary income.

Tourist Business To Grow in 1986

Lower gasoline prices and Expo '86 in Vancouver, British Columbia will stimulate tourist business in Washington State later this year and create additional jobs in both the trade and service industries. The state tourism office forecasts total tourism employment will rise by at least five percent in 1986. They expect hotels and motels to show a seven percent increase in revenue and travel services an eight percent gain.

Seasonal growth added 3,100 jobs in the services group in March. An even larger gain should occur in April with the beginning of the early tourist season and the opening of the baseball and racing seasons. Carnivals will also provide jobs as they begin to move around the state this spring and summer.

Everett Navy Base Given OK

Government civilian employment rose 1,300 between February and March with about half of the increase in public education. A small seasonal gain is typical at this time of the year because of the resumption of outdoor work, i.e., landscape work, road repair, etc. More significant than the March seasonal gain was a U.S. Senate subcommittee's approval to spend $79 million in home port construction money. Approximately $16.5 million would be spent on building a new Navy Base in Everett. The full Senate-Armed Services Committee is expected to approve the decision in May. No House action is required. Washington State's Senators Gorton and Evans said construction on the Everett facility could begin as early as January 1987. According to the federal Office of Economic Adjustment, the new Everett Navy Base is expected to create nearly 12,000 new jobs in Snohomish County by 1990, including over 7,400 military personnel.

NATIONAL CONTEXT

Most Indicators Positive

National indicators of economic activity continue to be positive on balance but trouble spots remain. The Gross National Product (GNP) for the first quarter of 1986 increased at a 3.2 percent annual rate compared with a gain of only 0.7 percent in the first quarter of 1985. The Index of Leading Economic Indicators rose in March for the tenth straight month. On the other hand, industrial production fell 0.5 percent in March to post its second substantial decline in as many months. In addition, business sales dropped 1.1 percent in February for its biggest decline in eight years.

The Plus And Minus Of Lower Oil Prices

Part of the problem in the industrial sector seems to be related to the sudden drop in oil prices. In the

long run lower petroleum prices will benefit the economy, but the negative effects are showing up now. The decline has forced oil companies and suppliers to cut spending which has depressed the economies of oil and gas producing areas. By contrast, most consumers have benefited and will benefit even more in the future. Not only has the price of gasoline dropped, but lower oil prices have helped reduce both interest rates and inflation. Oil is a major cost factor in the economy. Business transportation and delivery costs will be lower as will heating bills. Products made from oil such as plastics and rubber will cost less to produce. Lower business costs will eventually reduce prices on many consumer goods and keep prices of other consumer goods from rising or rising as fast as they would have if oil prices had not dropped.

Public and Business Leaders Optimistic

Despite the slowdown in industrial production, the public and business leaders are increasingly optimistic on the future course of the economy. According to a Gallup public opinion poll taken in March, 83 percent of those responding believed that the current recovery will last at least until the end of the year, with 58 percent predicting the recovery will extend into 1988 or later. The survey also found that 46 percent believed that they were financially better off this year than last and 66 percent expect to be better off next year. Meanwhile, the business confidence index of the Conference Board rose to 61 in the first quarter of this year, up from 55 in the fourth quarter 1985 and 51 in the third quarter 1985. The Conference Board, a private business research organization, bases its index on responses from 1,000 executives representing a cross-section of business. In the latest survey, business leaders expecting improved conditions in their industries outnumbered those expecting declines by more than three to one.

Leading Indicator Index Up

The Index of Leading Economic Indicators, the government's main economic forecasting barometer, rose 0.5 percent in March suggesting the economy will continue to grow in the months ahead. Stock market prices and a rise in the money supply provided the largest contribution to the increase in the index in March. Other advancing indicators in the index were building permits, the number of companies receiving slower deliveries from suppliers, the average workweek and business and consumer borrowing. Indicators showing declines in March were manufacturers' orders, contracts and orders for plant and equipment, unemployment insurance claims, sensitive material prices, and net business formations.

DISTRESSED AREAS

Several pieces of legislation were enacted in 1985 and 1986 to aid economically distressed areas. Economic distress is defined in recent state legislation as an unemployment rate of 20 percent above the statewide average for the previous three years. Although alternate definitions exist, the baseline for assistance under existing legislation is the unemployment rate. This rate is recalculated yearly. The attached table reflects the most recent data developed by the Employment Security Department. As a result of the recalculation, Adams County now meets the distressed criteria while Mason County will loose distressed status.

Based on the most recent Employment Security Department calculations, a county needs an average annual unemployment rate of 11.5 percent or higher for the period January 1983 through December 1985 in order to qualify as a distressed area.

Distressed areas qualify for a variety of benefits, such as loans and grants to attract or retain businesses, financing infrastructure improvements, matching funds to stimulate private investments, and sales and use tax deferrals.

New Legislation for Job Creation

Two new pieces of legislation were passed in the last session to boost economic development and job creation. Employers will now be eligible for special benefits for hiring unemployment insurance and public assistance recipients, and the tax deferral for new manufacturing businesses has been extended for two years.

In order to promote tourism, counties and cities which excercise the option to levy a special excise tax on tourist-oriented businesses, such as hotels and motels, must now earmark those funds exclusively for the promotion of tourism. Promotion may be capital investments such as performing arts centers, stadiums, convention and visual arts centers or marketing activities such as advertising. Although the hotel/motel tax option is available to all counties and cities, the new legislation authorizes the use of the tax to develop strategies to expand tourism in distressed areas.

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis

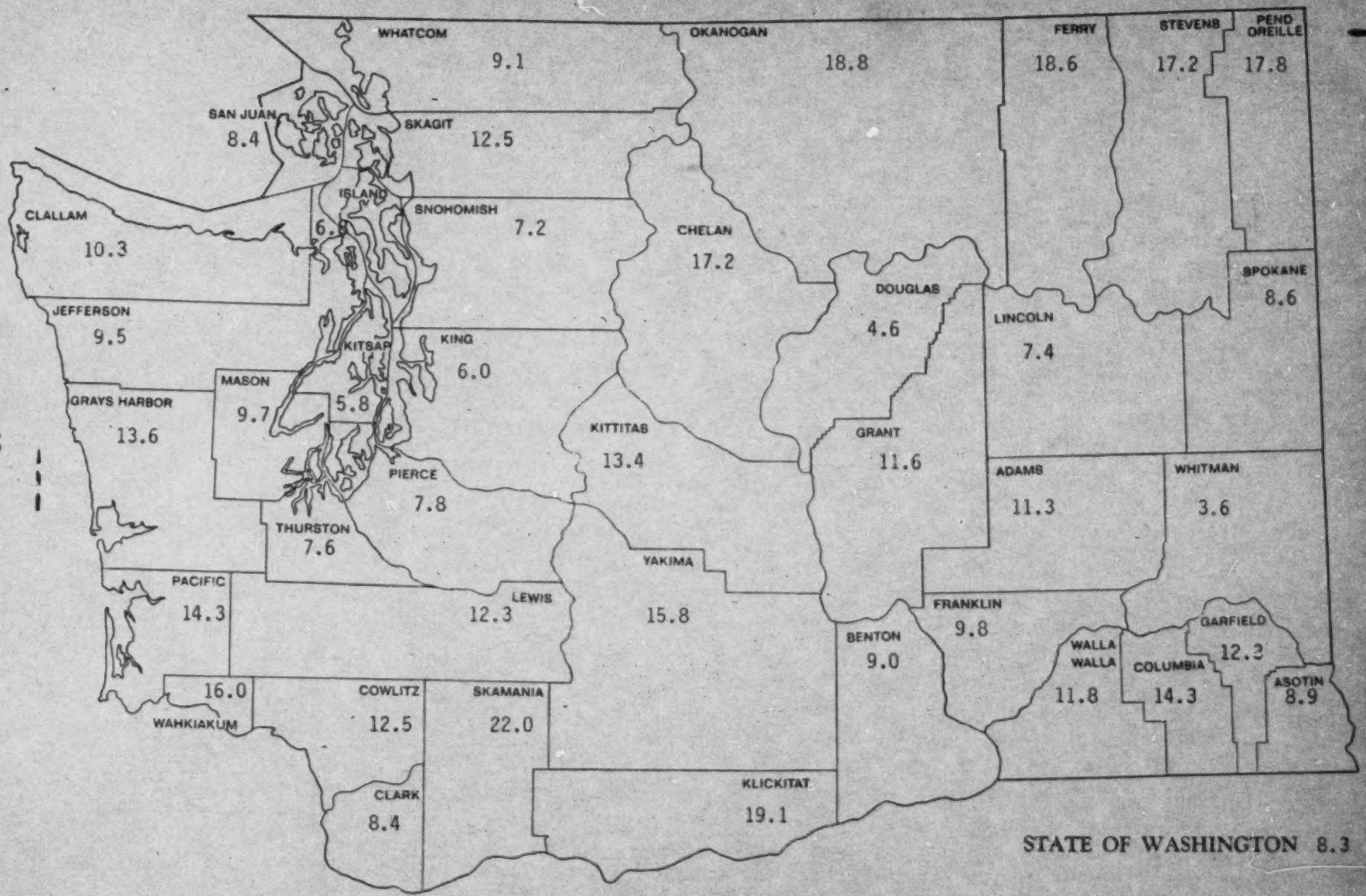
AREA	Three Year Average Unemployment Rate (Jan. 83 - Dec. 85)	Distressed Areas (Unemployment Rate ≥ 11.5)
WASHINGTON STATE	9.6	
Adams	12.4	Adams
Asotin	10.2	
Benton	12.4	Benton
Chelan	14.0	Chelan
Clallam	12.8	Clallam
Clark	9.8	
Columbia	16.9	Columbia
Cowlitz	12.6	Cowlitz
Douglas	10.1	
Ferry	16.2	Ferry
Franklin	13.1	Franklin
Garfield	8.1	
Grant	13.0	Grant
Grays Harbor	14.3	Grays Harbor
Island	8.5	
Jefferson	9.5	
King	7.9	
Kitsap	6.8	
Kittitas	12.1	Kittitas
Klickitat	15.2	Klickitat
Lewis	13.8	Lewis
Lincoln	6.6	
Mason	10.4	
Okanogan	16.9	Okanogan
Pacific	15.2	Pacific
Pend Oreille	15.7	Pend Oreille
Pierce	9.3	
San Juan	6.7	
Skagit	14.3	Skagit
Skamania	21.8	Skamania
Snohomish	8.9	
Spokane	8.7	
Stevens	15.0	Stevens
Thurston	9.3	
Wahkiakum	13.3	Wahkiakum
Walla Walla	9.6	
Whatcom	10.6	
Whitman	4.0	
Yakima	13.9	Yakima

1/ Data for 1983 through 1985 were revised in April 1986 incorporating 1980 census information, methodological changes, and updated information on exempt corporate officers. 1983 revisions were prepared using funds other than those provided by BLS contracts.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1967=100)

	INDEXES			PERCENT CHANGE Year Ending	
	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mar. 1986	Feb. 1986
U.S. City Average	326.0	327.5	318.8	+2.3	+3.2
Seattle-Everett	325.0	N/A	321.4	+1.1	N/A



STATE OF WASHINGTON 8.3

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS IN WASHINGTON STATE, PLACE OF WORK 1/
(In Thousands)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Mar. 1986 (Prel.)	Feb. 1986 (Rev.)	Mar. 1985	Feb. 1985	Numerical Change Feb. 86 to Mar. 86	Numerical Change Mar. 85 to Mar. 86
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY	1,729.4	1,715.8	1,670.8	1,649.4	+13.6	+58.6
TOTAL MANUFACTURING	294.7	293.7	289.5	285.9	+1.0	+5.2
Durable Goods	207.2	206.8	201.9	200.1	+0.4	+5.3
Lumber & Wood Products	35.9	35.8	36.7	36.4	+0.1	-0.8
Furniture & Fixtures	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.6	0.0	0.0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	6.1	6.1	6.2	5.9	0.0	-0.1
Primary Metals Industries	12.4	12.3	13.0	13.0	+0.1	-0.6
Aluminum Prod. & Processing	8.3	8.3	8.7	8.6	0.0	-0.4
Fabricated Metal Products	9.4	9.5	9.3	9.2	-0.1	+0.1
Machinery	30.4	30.6	29.7	29.7	-0.2	+0.7
Machinery (exc. electrical)	18.2	18.4	17.1	17.2	-0.2	+1.1
Electrical & Electronic Equip.	12.2	12.2	12.6	12.5	0.0	-0.4
Transportation Equipment	94.5	93.9	88.1	87.1	+0.6	+6.4
Aerospace	82.1	81.3	73.8	73.3	+0.8	+8.3
Other Transportation Equip.	12.4	12.6	14.3	13.8	-0.2	-1.9
Instruments & Related Prod.	10.4	10.5	10.7	10.7	-0.1	-0.3
Misc. Manufacturing Indus.	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.5	0.0	-0.1
Nondurable Goods	87.5	86.9	87.6	85.8	+0.6	-0.1
Food & Kindred Products	28.8	28.5	29.0	27.8	+0.3	-0.2
Canned & Preserved Foods	9.8	9.5	9.6	8.8	+0.3	+0.2
Apparel & Other Text. Products	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.2	0.0	-0.1
Paper & Allied Products	16.0	16.0	16.5	16.4	0.0	-0.5
Printing & Publishing	17.5	17.3	17.4	17.2	+0.2	+0.1
Chemicals & Allied Products	11.5	11.5	11.0	10.8	0.0	+0.5
Other Nondurable Goods 2/	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.4	+0.1	+0.1
MINING & QUARRYING	2.9	2.8	2.5	2.4	+0.1	+0.4
CONSTRUCTION	76.8	73.3	73.8	68.6	+3.5	+3.0
TRANSP. & PUBLIC UTILITIES	94.1	93.6	90.2 3/	89.3	+0.5	+3.9
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	423.0	419.5	406.5	401.8	+3.5	+16.5
Wholesale Trade	104.9	104.1	103.7	102.3	+0.8	+1.2
Retail Trade	318.1	315.4	302.8	299.5	+2.7	+15.3
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	101.7	101.1	97.3	96.0	+0.6	+4.4
SERVICES	382.6	379.5	365.6	360.8	+3.1	+17.0
Health Services	119.0	118.3	115.2	114.5	+0.7	+3.8
GOVERNMENT	353.6	352.3	345.4	344.0	+1.3	+8.2
Federal	68.9	68.7	68.2	68.5	+0.2	+0.7
State & Local	284.7	283.6	277.2	275.5	+1.1	+7.5
Education	155.2	154.5	152.5	152.2	+0.7	+2.7
Workers in Labor Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	-0.7

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during pay period including the 12th of the month.

2/ Includes textile mill products, rubber and miscellaneous plastics products, petroleum and refining and related products, and leather products.

3/ Excludes workers involved in labor-management disputes.

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

RESIDENT LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT
IN WASHINGTON STATE AND LABOR MARKET AREAS

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

Date: May 1986
Benchmark 1985

	March 1986 Preliminary 1/				February 1986 Revised 1/				March 1985 Revised			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State Total	2,093,100	1,919,900	173,200	8.3	2,076,400	1,898,500	177,900	8.6	2,063,700	1,879,900	183,800	8.9
Bellingham MSA	52,600	47,800	4,800	9.1	52,600	47,400	5,200	9.9	52,400	47,100	5,300	10.1
Bremerton MSA	69,400	65,400	4,000	5.8	68,900	65,000	3,900	5.7	68,000	63,800	4,200	6.2
Olympia MSA	66,900	61,800	5,100	7.6	66,100	61,000	5,100	7.7	65,600	60,200	5,400	8.2
Seattle PMSA	921,600	863,800	57,800	6.3	918,500	860,100	58,400	6.4	900,400	836,300	64,100	7.1
King County 2/	719,200	675,900	43,300	6.0	716,400	673,000	43,400	6.1	703,700	654,400	49,300	7.0
Snohomish County 2/	202,400	187,900	14,500	7.2	202,100	187,100	15,000	7.4	196,700	181,900	14,800	7.5
Spokane MSA	157,000	143,500	13,500	8.6	157,000	142,700	14,300	9.1	159,500	145,300	14,200	8.9
Tacoma PMSA	222,100	204,800	17,300	7.8	220,800	203,800	17,000	7.7	217,000	199,400	17,600	8.1
Tri-Cities MSA	66,400	60,200	6,200	9.3	65,700	58,800	6,900	10.5	66,100	58,700	7,400	11.2
Benton County 2/	50,000	45,500	4,500	9.0	49,300	44,400	4,900	9.9	49,700	44,300	5,400	10.9
Franklin County 2/	16,400	14,800	1,600	9.8	16,400	14,400	2,000	12.2	16,400	14,400	2,000	12.2
Vancouver PMSA	100,600	92,100	8,500	8.4	100,100	91,300	8,800	8.8	98,200	89,600	8,600	8.8
Yakima MSA	82,300	69,300	13,000	15.8	78,500	64,900	13,600	17.3	80,500	69,000	11,500	14.3
Adams	6,550	5,810	740	11.3	6,520	5,520	1,000	15.3	6,500	5,760	740	11.4
Asotin	7,970	7,260	710	8.9	7,890	7,140	750	9.5	7,590	6,770	820	10.8
Clallam	20,280	18,190	2,090	10.3	20,230	17,950	2,280	11.3	20,900	18,450	2,450	11.7
Columbia	2,100	1,800	300	14.3	1,770	1,310	460	26.0	1,940	1,560	380	19.6
Cowlitz	33,860	29,630	4,230	12.5	33,690	29,290	4,400	13.1	34,510	30,350	4,160	12.1
Ferry	2,640	2,150	490	18.6	2,500	2,070	430	17.2	2,590	2,040	550	21.2
Garfield	1,140	1,000	140	12.3	1,120	960	160	14.3	1,130	1,030	100	8.8
Grant	22,770	20,120	2,650	11.6	22,380	19,320	3,060	13.7	22,830	19,750	3,080	13.5
Grays Harbor	25,020	21,810	3,410	13.6	24,670	21,540	3,130	12.7	25,750	21,990	3,730	14.5
Island	15,540	14,490	1,050	6.8	15,360	14,230	1,130	7.4	16,280	14,970	1,310	8.0
Jefferson	6,420	5,810	610	9.5	6,250	5,630	620	9.9	6,470	5,730	740	11.4
Kittitas	11,610	10,050	1,560	13.4	11,340	9,830	1,510	13.3	11,430	9,880	1,550	13.6
Klickitat	8,750	7,080	1,670	19.1	8,490	6,720	1,770	20.8	7,870	6,420	1,450	18.4
Lewis	23,680	20,770	2,910	12.3	23,350	20,310	3,040	13.0	23,430	20,050	3,380	14.4
Lincoln	4,310	3,990	320	7.4	4,200	3,840	360	8.6	4,360	4,050	310	7.1
Mason	11,870	10,720	1,150	9.7	11,760	10,520	1,240	10.5	11,920	10,720	1,200	10.1
Okanogan	13,220	10,730	2,490	18.8	13,070	10,490	2,580	19.7	13,920	11,100	2,820	20.3
Pacific	6,850	5,870	980	14.3	6,660	5,840	820	12.3	6,620	5,440	1,180	17.8
Pend Oreille	3,600	2,960	640	17.8	3,490	2,860	630	18.1	3,930	3,250	680	17.3
San Juan	4,150	3,800	350	8.4	4,050	3,650	400	9.9	4,040	3,700	340	8.4
Skagit	29,520	25,820	3,700	12.5	28,580	24,600	3,980	13.9	30,990	26,690	4,300	13.9
Skamania	2,360	1,840	520	22.0	2,420	1,740	680	28.1	2,310	1,670	640	27.7
Stevens	11,320	9,370	1,950	17.2	11,050	9,180	1,870	16.9	11,510	9,510	2,000	17.4
Wahkiakum	1,190	1,000	190	16.0	1,190	1,000	190	16.0	1,310	1,150	160	12.2
Walla Walla	24,000	21,170	2,830	11.8	23,650	20,660	2,990	12.6	23,160	20,770	2,390	10.3
Wenatchee Labor Area	35,780	30,970	4,810	13.4	35,270	30,680	4,590	13.0	34,910	30,470	4,440	12.7
Chelan County 2/	25,150	20,830	4,320	17.2	24,730	20,640	4,090	16.5	23,880	20,500	3,380	14.2
Douglas County 2/	10,630	10,140	490	4.6	10,540	10,040	500	4.7	11,030	9,970	1,060	9.6
Whitman	17,790	17,150	640	3.6	17,360	16,680	680	3.9	18,080	17,320	760	4.2

1/ Estimates provided here are for use as an economic time-series. Official Bureau of Labor Statistics' estimates, which must be used for federal program purposes, are available upon request.

2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.

NOTE: Detail may not add due to rounding.

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

WASHINGTON STATE LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT
ESTIMATES FOR FEDERAL PROGRAM PURPOSES

May 1, 1986
Benchmark 1985

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	MARCH 1986 PRELIMINARY 1/				FEBRUARY 1986 REVISED 1/			
	Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employ-ment	Unemploy-ment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State Total	2,113,200	1,940,500	172,700	8.2	2,094,000	1,914,100	179,900	8.6
Bellingham MSA	53,100	48,300	4,800	9.0	53,000	47,800	5,200	9.8
Bremerton MSA	70,100	66,100	4,000	5.7	69,500	65,500	4,000	5.8
Olympia MSA	67,500	62,500	5,000	7.4	66,600	61,500	5,100	7.7
Seattle PMSA	930,700	873,100	57,600	6.2	926,100	867,100	59,000	6.4
King County 2/	726,300	683,100	43,200	5.9	722,400	678,500	43,900	6.1
Snohomish County 2/	204,300	189,900	14,400	7.0	203,700	188,600	15,100	7.4
Spokane MSA	158,400	145,000	13,400	8.5	158,300	143,800	14,500	9.2
Tacoma PMSA	224,300	207,000	17,300	7.7	222,700	205,500	17,200	7.7
Tri-Cities MSA	67,000	60,900	6,100	9.1	66,200	59,300	6,900	10.4
Benton County 2/	50,500	46,000	4,500	8.9	49,700	44,800	4,900	9.9
Franklin County 2/	16,500	14,900	1,600	9.7	16,500	14,500	2,000	12.1
Vancouver PMSA	101,500	93,100	8,400	8.3	100,900	92,000	8,900	8.8
Yakima MSA	83,000	70,000	13,000	15.7	79,200	65,500	13,700	17.3
Adams	6,610	5,870	740	11.2	6,580	5,570	1,010	15.3
Asotin	8,050	7,340	710	8.8	7,950	7,200	750	9.4
Clallam	20,460	18,380	2,080	10.2	20,390	18,090	2,300	11.3
Columbia	2,110	1,820	290	13.7	1,780	1,320	460	25.8
Cowlitz	34,170	29,950	4,220	12.4	33,980	29,530	4,450	13.1
Ferry	2,660	2,170	490	18.4	2,530	2,090	440	17.4
Garfield	1,150	1,010	140	12.2	1,130	970	160	14.2
Grant	22,980	20,340	2,640	11.5	22,580	19,480	3,100	13.7
Grays Harbor	25,240	21,840	3,400	13.5	24,870	21,710	3,160	12.7
Island	15,700	14,650	1,050	6.7	15,480	14,340	1,140	7.4
Jefferson	6,480	5,870	610	9.4	6,290	5,670	620	9.9
Kittitas	11,720	10,160	1,560	13.3	11,430	9,910	1,520	13.3
Klickitat	8,830	7,160	1,670	18.9	8,570	6,780	1,790	20.9
Lewis	23,900	20,990	2,910	12.2	23,560	20,480	3,080	13.1
Lincoln	4,360	4,040	320	7.3	4,240	3,870	370	8.7
Mason	11,980	10,830	1,150	9.6	11,870	10,610	1,260	10.6
Okanogan	13,330	10,850	2,480	18.6	13,180	10,570	2,610	19.8
Pacific	6,910	5,930	980	14.2	6,710	5,880	830	12.4
Pend Oreille	3,630	2,990	640	17.6	3,510	2,880	630	17.9
San Juan	4,190	3,840	350	8.4	4,080	3,680	400	9.8
Skagit	29,790	26,100	3,690	12.4	28,820	24,800	4,020	13.9
Skamania	2,370	1,860	510	21.5	2,440	1,750	690	28.3
Stevens	11,420	9,470	1,950	17.1	11,150	9,260	1,890	17.0
Wahkiakum	1,190	1,010	180	15.1	1,210	1,010	200	16.5
Walla Walla	24,220	21,400	2,820	11.6	23,850	20,830	3,020	12.7
Wenatchee Labor Area	36,110	31,310	4,800	13.3	35,570	30,930	4,640	13.0
Chelan County 2/	25,370	21,060	4,310	17.0	24,950	20,810	4,140	16.6
Douglas County 2/	10,740	10,250	490	4.6	10,640	10,130	510	4.8
Whitman	17,980	17,340	640	3.6	17,510	16,820	690	3.9

1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. Data are not comparable with estimates made in previous years.
2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.

Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

ESTIMATED AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING AND OF NONSUPERVISORY WORKERS IN NONMANUFACTURING ACTIVITIES, STATE OF WASHINGTON

	MAR. 1986 Prod. or Nonsup. Workers	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
		MAR 1986	FEB 1986	MAR 1985	MAR 1986	FEB 1986	MAR 1985	MAR 1986	FEB 1986	MAR 1985
TOTAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES *	177,300	$474.78	$466.10	$455.91	40.1	39.4	39.0	$11.84	$11.83	$11.69
SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Lumber & wood products.....	31,900	462.00	451.92	437.01	40.0	39.4	38.2	11.55	11.47	11.44
Primary metal industries.....	9,600	552.40	543.77	545.08	42.2	41.7	39.7	13.09	13.04	13.73
Fabricated metal products.....	7,200	456.55	450.74	450.82	39.7	39.4	38.4	11.50	11.44	11.74
Machinery.....	17,400	390.51	382.91	365.66	40.3	38.6	38.9	9.69	9.92	9.40
Food & kindred products.....	21,700	355.15	360.88	356.59	36.5	36.6	37.3	9.73	9.86	9.56
Chemicals & allied products...	5,100	563.88	573.76	572.05	41.8	41.1	42.5	13.49	13.96	13.46
SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Construction.....	56,600	585.07	572.68	609.39	37.1	36.2	37.0	15.77	15.82	16.47
Wholesale and retail trade.... (excludes eating & drinking places)	262,500	316.63	320.02	314.34	33.4	33.9	33.8	9.48	9.44	9.30

* Average hourly earnings for all manufacturing production workers reported in this table do not fully reflect the official U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics definition of "wages". While these data still constitute a valid economic indicator series, they should not be be used at this time for the negotiation of contracts whose monetary provisions may depend upon official U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics hourly earnings data.